

Reckless

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1. Chapter 1

Okay so I've been writing a few Mpreg (totally new to me) fics as prompts from people for #Hannibal and I find myself quite enjoying them so I thought I'd give it a try in the Bond Fandom. I've had a look and noticed a lot of 00/Q and I do like the pairing but I have to say my own favourite is 00/Mallory so I'm going to be using them. As I said, Mpreg so if you don't approve, then heyâ€¦don't read it.

â€¦

Reckless

00/Mallory

Chapter 1

â€¦

**2 months previous**

â€¦

James sat at the bar, on his fourth or fifth whiskey, he'd lost count. If there was one thing he hated more than anything is was sucking up to the big heads of MI6, the ones who sat behind desks making big decisions that impacted so many lives without ever stepping foot out in the field. The never saw all the chaos, the destruction that their Agents had to deal with and live with many months, sometimes years after the events.

"Bondâ€¦"

James looked to his side to see their new Head of MI6 standing beside him, ordering a drink.

"Sirâ€|"

"Can I get you a drink?"

"Another whiskey would be greatâ€|thanks."

Mallory turned his attentions to James who seemed focused on the drink in his hand.

"I haven't seen you mingle."

"I'm not really the mingling type Sirâ€|"

"It's why we're here Bond."

"Look, I didn't ask to come, I was told it wasn't optional. Believe me; I have other things I could be doing."

"Such asâ€|"

"Anything."

James got up from his seat, taking the glass of whiskey the bartender put down as Mallory passed him the money.

"Thanks for the drink."

Mallory smiled briefly as James walked away towards the balcony where a handful of people were smoking and escaping the small talk. Mallory thanked the waiter before going out to join James who was leaning on the ledge, glass in hand as he looked down at the street below. The older man sat his glass down on the ledge, his back leaning against the ledge.

"You think I want to be here, I'd much rather be at home in front of the fire with a good book. After a long day this is the last thing I had in mind."

"Why did you take this job?"

"I'm sorry."

"MI6 Head, it's so damn time consumingâ€|dangerous. You saw what happened to M, my Mâ€|why would you risk the chance of something like that happening to you?"

"This job, yes it's dangerous but no more than yours. In fact your position is far more dangerous than mine."

"I'm still aliveâ€|she's not."

Mallory heard the hurt in James voice as he spoke of Olivia."

"I know it still hurts, it's only been 6 months but it will get easier."

"Will it?"

"I promiseâ€¦I wasn't far off when I said she was fond of you and vice versaâ€¦was I, that day in her office?"

"She was like a mother to me; I'd have done anything for her. Turns outâ€¦I didn't do enough."

"Jamesâ€¦you did all you could to save her, you couldn't predict her injuries."

"I guess."

"You know, I don't think they'd notice if we slipped awayâ€¦I don't live too far from hereâ€¦why don't we get a proper drink at mine."

"M was always furious when I broke in to her place." He smiled.

"Yes well, this timeâ€¦you're invited. Come on, before they notice we're gone."

â€¦

James stepped inside Mallory's flat; he looked around as Mallory removed his long coat and hung it up on the coat rack.

"Just go through, make yourself comfortable." He smiled.

James walked through to the front room, walls full of art, mahogany wood flooring, and deep red walls.

"Nice place you have Sirâ€¦"

"Gareth please, for tonight at least."

"Your flats a lot bigger than mine, mind youâ€¦I don't spend much time there."

"Our fault I suppose."

"I've never really felt comfortable there, it's just a place to sleepâ€¦not live."

"Bourbon?"

"Please."

James sat down as he watched Mallory light the fire and get them both a glass of Bourbon from his cabinet before handing it to James and sitting beside him.

"Cheers."

"Cheers Sirâ€¦Gareth."

Before they realized it, they had finished off the bottle of Bourbon, both men leaning back against the couch, both a little light headed.

"Well this certainly turned out to be a better evening than I thought it would." James said.

"So spending time with the boss isn't as bad as you thought."

James turned his head to look at the older man, his blue eyes staring back at him.

"I'm sorry." Was all James said.

"Why are you apologising?"

"I've been somewhat unfair to you since you took over the role, I've done nothing but resent you for being here, despite your attempts to get me on side—I've just pushed you away."

"You were hurting; I know it's not personal."

"If it wasn't for you, she'd have died in that courtroom—you gave me a few extra days with her."

Mallory saw the tears in James' eyes, without thinking he reached over and took a tight hold of James' free hand. He felt James tense immediately, removing his hand and getting up to stand by the fire. The younger man sat his glass on the mantle as he ran a hand over his face. Mallory got up and came to stand beside him.

"I'm sorry, I was just trying to offer some comfort to you, I didn't mean to make you uncomfortable."

"No—you didn't."

—

In truth James felt anything but uncomfortable, the moment Mallory's hand touched his, he got the warmest feeling deep within him. James looked up to see the regretful look on Mallory's face, James stepped forward, closing the gap between them, Mallory froze as James' hand rested on his hip before James leaned in, apprehensive at first before covering the older man's lips.

"James we—"

"Ssssh."

Mallory tried to pull back but James' grip was strong. James moved his face, leaning in to Mallory's ear.

"Where's your bedroom." He whispered.

"Down the hall—" James we—" "

James was refusing to listen and he took hold of Mallory's hand, as they made their way down the hallway, coming to stop inside Mallory's bedroom.

"Wow, you really have a red vibe going on don't you?" He joked, looking at the walls.

"It's a warm colour."

James turned to him, wrapping his arms around the older man as he turned them around, leading them over to the bed as James kissed his boss. Mallory felt the edge of the bed at the back of his legs, as James lowered him down, hovering over him. Mallory closed his eyes as he felt James unbuttoning his shirt. The older man tensed when he felt James unbuttoning his trouser, ready to remove them. Mallory gripped James hand in a vice, forcing James to stop and look at him.

"What's wrong?"

Mallory pushed him to the side and sat up, sitting on the end of the bed.

"We can't do this."

"Come on, why not."

"I'm your boss andâ€¦I can'tâ€¦"

"Gareth I'm clean, I imagine you are too."

"Whatâ€¦well yes of course but..."

"Then what's the problem."

Mallory looked up at James, debating whether or not to tell the younger man about his rare condition but he couldn't bare the disgust in the eyes.

"I have protection if you're really worried about this."

James cupped his face, kissing him harder, leaving the man in no doubt of what he wanted.

Mallory relaxed in his arms as he allowed himself to be pushed back on to the bed, watching James carefully as he prepared them both. Mallory's eyes darted to the ceiling when he felt James enter him, praying there would be no consequences.

â€¦

To Be Continuedâ€¦

2. Chapter 2

****Chapter 2****

â€¦

Present day****

â€¦

Eve was sitting behind her desk when Mallory finally escaped his office after a very hectic morning; she smiled up at him as he put some files on her desk.

"All signed for you Eve, if you could get them to the PM as soon as I'd appreciate it."

"Absolutely Sirâ€¦erm, Sir if you don't mind me askingâ€¦are you alright?"

Eve took in his pale appearance, the tiredness in his eyes.

"Fineâ€¦just a headache."

"Oh here, I have some paracetamol." She smiled, handing him a pack.

"That's very kind Eve but I can't."

"You have a headache, of course you can."

"I'm allergic."

"Oh, oh my god, I'm so sorry."

"It's quite alright. Isâ€¦has Bond arrived yet?"

"Not yet Sir, he's held up in traffic."

"Mmmm, I'll bet he is."

"I'll call him; tell him to get a move on."

"That would be good, thank you Eve."

She watched him retreat back in to his office and close the door gently behind him. He obviously had more than just a headache; Eve estimatedâ€¦she would just keep an eye on him.

Mallory took a seat at his desk, turning his head to look out of the window, thinking back to the first night with James. He closed his eyes, berating himself for being so foolish and naïve. Mallory's hand came to his mouth as he felt the sudden urge to vomit, quickly getting to his feet to run to his ensuite. He knelt down by the toilet as he emptied the contents of his stomach before leaning back against the cool tiles.

"Gareth, you bloody fool." He muttered to himself.

â€¦

James came strolling in to the office an hour later, smiling like he didn't have a care in the world.

"Well it's about time you showed up, where the hell have you been?" Eve asked.

"I told youâ€¦traffic."

"Mmmm, I'll bet. Ran in to some young hot woman on your way I'll bet."

James came and took a seat on her desk.

"As a matter of fact, I haven't been with anyone in two months."

"Wow, are you feeling alright? I wouldn't want another sick person on my hands."

"What are you talking about?"

"Huh? Oh, sorry. I was talking about M, he doesn't seem himself."

"How come?"

"He looks very pale, I think he might be coming down with something. I'm sure he booked a hospital appointment for the afternoon, it's probably just flu or something. Anyway, are you ready for your next mission?"

"I've only been back a week, anyone would think he was trying to get rid of me." He joked.

"I hope you haven't been upsetting him James."

"Don't be daft."

James got off the desk and straightened his jacket, suddenly worried.

"You can go in."

"Thanks Eve."

â€

James walked in to Mallory's office; he looked over at Mallory's desk to see it empty. He was about to walk back out when he saw the older man laying on the couch, his eyes closed. James smiled to himself as he watched the older man before he knelt down by the couch, laying a hand on his arm.

"Mâ€ Gareth."

Mallory stirred when he heard another voice in the room, opening his eyes to see James watching him, concern in his eyes. He sat up quickly, a little too quickly as dizziness overtook him. James placed his hands on either side of Mallory to steady him.

"Hey, take it easy."

They waited a few minutes until Mallory returned to some normality.

"You feeling better?"

"A little, sorry about that Bond."

"Eve said you're coming down with the flu."

"Did she? Well yes, I think I might be."

"Reallyâ€¦you don't seem too sure about that."

Mallory got up slowly and walked to the bathroom to splash some water on his face as James stood in the doorway watching him. James grimaced when he got the strong smell of vomit as he entered.

"Were you sick?"

"Whatâ€¦erm, yes. Something I ate I think."

"You think?"

"Will you please just leave it Bond."

Mallory walked past him and sat down at his desk, James came and stood in front of him, really watching the older man properly for the first time. The dark circles under his eyes, his pale complexion, the nausea.

"Now, your plane departs in 2 hours for Copenhagenâ€¦I expect you to be on it and when you get there you will check in with our Head over there, Oliver Garrett. He's fill you in on everything you need to know when you arrive."

"How long will I be away?"

"Well it depends how long you take to complete your mission doesn't it."

James gave a smirk to himself before sitting down across from him.

"Have I pissed you off or something?"

"Excuse meâ€¦"

"Well you seem a bit off with me, we haven't really talked properly sinceâ€¦wellâ€¦"

"You've been away working; there's not been much time."

James got up and came around to lean against the desk beside Mallory as the older man pushed his seat back a little.

"What's going on with you?"

"It's nothing."

"Hey, look at me."

Mallory sighed before looking up in to James eyes.

"Whatever is going on with you, it's not the fluâ€¦that much I know, every time I try to ask you something about your health, you change the subject. Eve's worried about youâ€¦so am I."

"I said I'm fineâ€¦shouldn't you be going."

"Fine, have it your own way."

"Make sure to call in when arrive in Copenhagen."

"Yes Sir."

Mallory closed his eyes briefly as James slammed the door behind him; Eve looked up as James walked past without saying a word. She was about to call after him when Mallory walked out in his coat.

"Sirâ€|."

"I'm off to my hospital appointment, I might not be back afterwards, it will depend."

"Depend on what?"

"I'm just not sure how long it will take, have Tanner take over for the remainder of the day please."

"Of course."

Worry suddenly filled Eve as he walked away, clearly this wasn't the flu.

â€|

James sat on the plane, staring out the window as they waited for the plane to take off. All he could think about was Mallory and how he'd looked when he'd left, something was defiantly off with him and that just worried James more and more.

"Drink Sirâ€|"

"Sorry, oh no thank you."

"The plane will take off shortly, I'm sorry to keep you all waiting."

"Yeah it'sâ€|you know what, I have to get off."

"I'm sorry Sir but the door's closed now and weâ€|"

"I want off the plane."

"Sir weâ€|"

"Open the bloody doorâ€|NOW."

The flight attendant stood back as the other woman quickly opened the door to the plane, as James got up and stormed off the plane. He rushed out of the airport and quickly called Eve.

"Jamesâ€|missing me already are we." She laughed.

"Eveâ€|put M on the phone."

"Mâ€|well he's not here."

"Where is he?"

"At the hospitalâ€¦I told, he had an appointment."

"When will he be back?"

"Well that's the strange thing, he said he didn't know how long he'd be at the hospital for and not to expect him back today. James I'm worried, I'm beginning to think it's something more than the flu."

"I thought the sameâ€¦which hospital is he at?"

"St Margaret's, but what can you do from the plane?"

"I'm not on the plane, I'm in a taxi coming back."

"You're whatâ€¦Jamesâ€¦M will kill you, you can't abandon a mission."

"Right now, I don't care. I need to see him."

"James what's going on?"

"I can't explain right now, I'll call you later."

James hung up just as Eve was about to speak, Eve sat the phone downâ€¦now more confused than ever.

â€¦

James gave the instructions to the taxi driver and waited patiently before pulling up in front of the hospital. He paid the driver before making his way inside to reception.

"Excuse me...hi, a friend of mine has an appointment here, I said I'd come for moral support but he forgot to tell me which part of the hospital he'd be in."

"What's the name?"

"Erm, Malloryâ€¦Gareth Mallory."

The receptionist scrolled through the computer before finding Mallory's name.

"Ahh yes here he is, he's on the fourth floor, Doctor Adams, his appointment forâ€¦oh."

"Yes."

"His termination isn't scheduled for another half hour, he should still be in the waiting room." She said quietly.

"His whatâ€¦hisâ€¦"

"Termination."

"No, there must be some mistakeâ€¦heâ€¦he's a man, I think you've got him mixed up with another patient."

"No Sir, we have the right patient. Doctor Adams deals in rare conditions like Mr Mallory's."

"Rareâ€|are you telling meâ€|he's preâ€|"

"Pregnantâ€|that's right."

"I don't, which floor did you say."

"Fourth Sirâ€|"

â€|

James gave a quick nod before walking as quickly as he could, he got on the elevator and pressed the button for the fourth floor, his stomach churning as he digested everything the receptionist had told him. The doors opened and James stepped out, walking along the corridor and stopping at the swing doors when he saw Mallory sitting on his own in the waiting room, his face full of fear. James took a deep breath before walking through the doors, coming to sit beside Mallory who hadn't even noticed who is was.

"Sirâ€|"

Mallory froze when he heard the voice beside him, before slowly looking up to see James watching him.

"How the hell did you find out where I was Bond?"

"I'm a spy, kind of my job."

Mallory got up, giving a quick look at the young nurse on the desk before walking through the doors, James following behind him. Mallory was leaning against the wall when James approached him.

"You have no right to be here, you should be on a bloody plane to Copenhagen for god sake. You have a job to do; I am still your boss."

"Really, I think that's the least of our problems right now, don't you."

Mallory ran a hand over his face as James closed the space between them, not giving Mallory the opportunity to walk.

"Is it trueâ€|you'reâ€|pregnant?"

"Don't look at me like that."

"Like whatâ€|"

"Disgusted."

"I'm not, I'm asking you a question."

"It's a very rare condition, they discovered I had it when I went for a physical in my teens. I've always been able to manage it and I've always been in relationships with women so it was never really an issue."

"Until we slept together?"

"Yes."

"That's why you were so unsure that night."

"I didn't know if it was still possible, given my ageâ€¦it would be no different if it were a woman in her late fortiesâ€¦I thought it wouldn't be an issue."

"We used protection, and it still happened."

"Nothing's a hundred percent effective."

They lapsed in to silence, Mallory keeping his head down. James could see it was hard on the older man, what he was going through, causing a small pang of guilt from James.

"So whatâ€¦you were just going to come here, get rid of it and never tell me?"

"Something like that."

"Are you fucking kidding me?"

"Bond Iâ€¦"

"It's a baby Garethâ€¦a baby, our baby."

"Are you seriously telling me that if I'd told you earlier back in the office that you wouldn't have reacted badly?"

"Considering the situation, I think I'm handling it pretty damn well right now, don't you."

"Garethâ€¦"

Both men looked up to see Doctor Adams standing at the doors, watching them with concern.

"We're ready when you are." She smiled, sympathetically.

"Thank you Sharon."

"Could you give us a minute please?" James asked.

"Of course."

She left them alone as James turned back to Mallory, taking hold of his hands.

"Please, I know this isâ€¦insane but, pleaseâ€¦can we at least think about this before you make a rash decision."

"James Iâ€¦"

"If you do this now, you can't take it back. This is a baby we're talking about, and not just any baby but ours. I don't want you to regret this."

"This shouldn't be happening, it shouldn't be possible."

"But it has happened, I know you're scared but I want you to know thatâ€¦I'll be there with you, pleaseâ€¦take some time to think about this."

"James, it was one night between us."

"Only because you sent me away on mission after mission after that, if I'd had it my wayâ€¦there would have been more nights."

"Jamesâ€¦"

"You helped me get over Olivia, I've seen the real you and honestlyâ€¦I like you, a lot."

"I don't know."

"Please come home with me, we'll talk. I'm begging you; don't get termination, at least not today."

"Gentlemen, I'm really sorry but we really need to go ahead if you're ready." Sharon said, appearing again.

Mallory released his hands from James grasp before turning to Sharon.

"Actually Sharon, I need more time."

"Are you sure?"

He looked to James and back at Sharon before smiling briefly.

"I am, I'm sorry."

"Okay, you know where am I when you need to talk."

"Thank you."

"Take care gentlemen."

James breathed a sigh of relief as Mallory turned back to him.

"Gareth thank you."

"I'm still not sure about this."

"Let's just get you home okayâ€¦we'll talk."

"Sure."

James smiled before leaning in and placing a kiss to Mallory's lips, a reminder of their night together.

â€¦

To Be Continuedâ€¦

3. Chapter 3

****Chapter 3****

â€|

They arrived back at Mallory's flat just after 2pm, Mallory walked ahead of James towards the front room, taking off his jacket and throwing it over the chair before taking a seat. As James walked in, Mallory had his head down, clenching his handsâ€|attempting to relax a little. James watched him closely as he closed his eyes briefly, he felt a little uneasy seeing someone like M so unsure of something. James took a deep breath as he came and sat down on the coffee table in front of Mallory as the older man moved his legs to make room for him.

"Gareth, please look at me."

The older man lifted his head to meet James eyes, two sets of blue eyes staring back at one another before Mallory sighed.

"I wish there was something I could say Jamesâ€|but there's not. I should have told you before anything happened between us, I nearly did butâ€|"

"You did try too I guess, you were very apprehensive at first."

"I didn't try hard enoughâ€|clearly."

"You could have told me about the babyâ€|why didn't you?"

"You know why, I couldn't bare the disgust. When I was younger, about sixteenâ€|I was best friends with a boy who lived down the road from usâ€|we told each other everything. Well, one day I decided to tell him about my ability to conceive."

"What happened?" He asked, quietly.

"He hit meâ€|beat me, he told me I was a freakâ€|sick. I begged him never to tell anyone."

"But he did?"

"No he kept quiet but, he refused to speak to me ever again. Every time he would see me, he'd cross the street just to avoid me."

James reached out, attempting to take Mallory's hand but the older man pulled away from him.

"Gareth I'm sorry, I'm sorry that your best friend couldn't accept who you were."

"It's not just about him, it's about everyone. I'm not the person I was back then. I hold a high position within MI6 now, what do you think people would thinkâ€|I risk losing my job, the respect of the people around me, my reputation...friends."

"Not everyone in the world is prejudice you know, you'd be surprised."

"I'd rather not take that risk James."

"When did you find out?"

"Why?"

"I'm justâ€¦curious."

"Three weeks ago."

"When you ordered me to go to that re-training course?"

"Yes."

"Is that why you sent meâ€¦you were pissed at me."

"I'd like to think I'm more mature than that."

"So why didn't you tell me, why did you wait for me to go to Copenhagen before getting rid of the baby?"

"I just thought it would be easier."

"Easierâ€¦on whom? I had a right to know."

Mallory got up, attempting to move away from James. As he walked away James tried to take hold of Mallory's hand but the older man yanked it away as he walked towards the kitchen.

"Come on, don't walk away."

Mallory turned; trying to push James away but the younger man took hold of his arms, pushing him against the nearest wall with a thump. James was looking deep in to his eyes as Mallory breathed heavily as James had an arm across his chest.

"Let me go James."

"I'm sorry; I'mâ€¦god, are you alright?"

James was suddenly very apologetic, his eyes darting to Mallory's mid section. Mallory glared at him before moving from the wall, going to the kitchen to make some coffee. James stood in the doorway watching him, guilt pouring from him as he walked towards Mallory. He came up behind him, wrapping his arms around Mallory's waist, his hands resting on his abdomen. Mallory closed his eyes tightly when he felt James press the palms of his hands to his stomach.

"James don'tâ€¦please."

James could hear Mallory's voice cracking, James wasn't the best when it came to emotion but for him this was just so different.

"It's okayâ€¦it's all going to be okay." James smiled against his neck as he placed a warm kiss there.

He could feel the silent tears as he turned Mallory around in his arms, James leaning in to kiss his lips before Mallory lost the feeling in his legs, coming down to the floor, James coming with him

as he held him in his arms. They sat in silence for ten minutes or so before James finally decided it was safe enough to speak again.

"I know it doesn't make it easier on you butâ€|this kid would be bloody lucky to have us as it's parents, I know I want itâ€|I think deep down, you do too. I know you're worried about other people's opinions but I'll be right there with you. It's our baby in there; pleaseâ€|don't get rid of it."

Mallory moved from his place in James arms, he wasn't used to feeling this emotion or vulnerable but James seemed to be handling his state well.

"I'm terrified."

"I know, but what first time parent isn't."

"What if weâ€|what if we can't work as a couple. It was one night James, two months ago."

"I haven't been with anyone since that night with youâ€|you know why? Because I don't want anyone else."

Mallory smiled up at him as James leaned down, covering his lipsâ€|wrapping his arms tightly around him.

"I want this Garethâ€|I want usâ€|all three of us."

"Can I sleep on it? Just a little more time, I promise."

"You can take all the time you need, I'm not going anywhere."

Mallory decided he needed to sleep and asked James if he could be left alone for a while, which he agreed too.

â€|

Eve was sitting at her kitchen counter, eating some left over Chinese from the previous night when the knock at her door disturbed her. When she opened the door, she was a little surprised to see James standing in front of her.

"Jamesâ€|"

"Hello Eve, can I come in."

Eve stepped aside as James walked in, she gave him a curious look as she closed the door and followed him as he poured some vodka in to a glass.

"Help yourself, why don't you." She said as she sat back down at the counter.

"Lookâ€|I'm sorry about earlier."

"So you should be, I sent another agent in your place, he arrived in Copenhagen a couple of hours ago."

"Thanks for that."

"Jamesâ€¦what the hell is going on. You don't just abandon a mission like that."

"Believe me, it was unavoidable."

"Rightâ€¦out with it."

"Eve I only came here to apologise."

"Well tough, you're not leaving here until you tell me what's going on. You rush off a plane before it's due to take offâ€¦you demand to know which hospital Mallory was at. What's wrong with him and don't say nothing because it's something and you're in on it."

"Eve Iâ€¦"

"For god sake James, he's Mâ€¦he's our bossâ€¦and he's a friends. If he's ill then weâ€¦"

"Eveâ€¦it's so complicated."

"I have all night."

James poured another glass of vodka and passed it to Eve.

"You're gonna need this."

Eve watched as James made his way over to her couch, she came to join him, setting her glass on the table as she turned and listened intently as James began to explain to her what had happened. As he finished, he watched as he got up and brought the bottle of vodka over, pouring two larger glasses as he took a long gulp of hers.

"Eveâ€¦you have to say something here."

"He'sâ€¦pregnantâ€¦M?"

"Yesâ€¦I know it's crazy butâ€¦."

"A littleâ€¦this is insane, how can heâ€¦"

"It's a very rare condition."

"How can you be so calm about thisâ€¦if it were a woman you'd be the first one going nuts over this."

"I was there Eve, at the hospitalâ€¦the fear in his eyes when he was waiting to have the termination Iâ€¦and then later in his kitchen when he broke down in my arms Iâ€¦"

"If he doesn't want to go through with it Jamesâ€¦you can't force him too. I imagine this will be tough going on him."

"I know I can't force him, he promised me he'd think about it if I just gave him time andâ€¦that's what I intend to do."

"And if he decided he can't?"

"It'll be tough butâ€¦if he can't do it then...I'll understand."

"And what about if he does decide to have the baby?"

"Then I'll be thereâ€¦for all of it." He smiled.

"Does he know you're here, telling me all this?"

"No, no and Eve, you can't tell him that you know please."

"I won't say a word, but Jamesâ€¦listen to me when I say, that whatever he decidedâ€¦you can't be a jack ass. You need to respect what ever decision he makes and stand by himâ€¦no matter what."

"Eve Iâ€¦"

"Promise me, he'll get the support no matter what."

"I promise."

"Goodâ€¦another drinkâ€¦god knows I could use one?"

"Sure."

â€¦

To Be Continuedâ€¦

4. Chapter 4

****Chapter 4****

â€¦

Eve barely took her eyes off Mallory for the remainder of the week; James kept his promise for the most part and stayed away, checking in with Eve to see how Mallory was.

"Eveâ€¦"

Eve was in a world of her own when Mallory approached her desk, confusion and worry on his face as he studied the young woman.

"Eveâ€¦is everything alright?"

"Oh Sirâ€¦erm yes, perfectly."

"Are you sure?"

Eve's phone vibrated on the desk for the umpteenth time that day, Mallory eyeing her closely as she read yet another message from James.

"Eve, why don't you come in to my office for a moment, there's something I'd like to discuss with you."

"Sure." She smiled as she picked up her tablet to take in with her.

"Oh no, you won't be needing thatâ€¦come."

Eve followed him inside, closing the door behind her before taking a seat opposite his desk as he sat in his chair. She took in the nervousness that was radiating from him but chose not to say anything.

"Isâ€¦everything alright Sir?"

"I was hoping you might be able to tell me."

"I'm sorry Sir, I don't understand."

"You seem to be very popular the last few days if your phone messages are anything to go by."

"Ohâ€¦that's just my sister, she can be veryâ€¦"

"Eveâ€¦I'm not a fool. I know James has been checking up on me through you."

"Heâ€¦he was just worried about youâ€¦with the flu and all."

Mallory got up and came around to Eve, looking down at her with a small smile on his face as he leaned against the desk, hands gripping the edge.

"I'm not a fool Eve; I know he's told you."

Eve tried to keep her face neutral but her eyes gave her away when she looks towards his stomach.

"He cares about you Sir."

"Yes I know."

Eve got up from her seat to stand in front of him, trying not to look as uncomfortable as she felt.

"Sir, I've never seen James as certain of anything as he is about youâ€¦andâ€¦the baby. Sorry, it just still feels very strange saying that."

"I understand, believe me. You're actually taking all of this a lot better than I thought you would. I would have expected you to be disgusted by what's happening."

"I'm not saying I'm not shocked Sir butâ€¦you can't help what's happening to you."

"No, but I could have tried harder to prevent it."

"You know James will stand by whatever decision you make, don't you?"

"I know and I also know what decision he's prefer I make."

"I know it's not easy and a baby might not be something you want butâ€¦if you did decide that keeping it might be something you'd want to do, we'd all help any way we could. You wouldn't have to go through any of this on your own."

"I second that."

Eve turned around and Mallory looked up when they heard the familiar voice and saw James standing in the doorway.

â€¦

Eve looked between the two men, suddenly feeling a little uncomfortable.

"I'll ermâ€¦leave you too it."

"Thank you Eve." Mallory added.

James stepped aside as Eve went to walk past him.

"Don't push him James." She whispered.

James smiled at her as she left, closing the door behind her. He turned back to see Mallory watching him closely, he kept eye contact with Mallory as he walked over to him, without saying anythingâ€¦he brought his hands to the sides of the older mans face before leaning in and kissing him. Mallory melted in to the kiss, as he closed his eyesâ€¦having missed the feel of James lips on his.

"I've missed you." James whispered as he pulled back to look in to his eyes.

"I've missed you too."

"How are you?"

"I'm alright, a little tired."

"Soâ€¦I've tried very hard to stay awayâ€¦to give you the time you need but I can't stand thisâ€¦I can't stand not being around you."

"Jamesâ€¦"

"If you don't want to have this baby thenâ€¦I'm not gonna force you. I would never make you go through something like this just to make me happy. Being with youâ€¦that will make me happy and at the end of the dayâ€¦you're all I need."

Mallory looked down, his hand going to his stomach before his hands found their way to James hips, holding the man in place, before looking up at him

"I can deal with terrorists, hostage situations, threats on my lifeâ€¦but, this babyâ€¦it terrifies me, what kind of father I would beâ€¦I have such terrible memories of my own father and I couldn't bare it if I ended up causing my own child the pain he did to me."

James motioned for him to sit in the chair before James knelt down beside him, taking hold of his hands in his.

"You would make a wonderful father. This kid, it would be lucky to have us as parents. I'm not saying we won't make mistakes, who doesn't, but we'll figure them out together. Whether we have this baby or we don't, I won't be going anywhere because I'm already falling in love with you."

"I give you my word, I'll give you my answer tonight, just give me a few more hours please."

"Sure, whatever you need."

James got up, leaned in and kissed him before leaving him alone.

â€

Mallory spent most of the evening going over and over in his head everything James had said to him in his office. He sat by the fire reading one of his favourite books, hoping he'd make his decision soon.

James ate the last of his curry before picking up the remote and trying to find something to watch. Hours passed, waking up to the vibrating of his mobile by the side of the sofa. He yawned before opening the message to see it was from Mallory, smiling as he read it.

"_You're painting the nursery."_

â€

To Be Continuedâ€

5. Chapter 5

****Chapter 5****

â€

James rushed in to MI6 the next morning, happiness written all over his face as he strode through the halls that would take him to Mallory's office. Eve looked up when James walked in, offering a small smile when he handed her some flowers.

"Wow, what did I do to deserve these?" She asked, taking them from him and sniffing them.

"Does a man need a reason to buy a woman flowers."

"You do so come on then what do you want?"

"They're merely a thank you."

"A thank you what for?"

"Lending me your ear the other night about Mâ€ you helped me a

lot."

"Judging by that smile on your face and the fact that M seems to be in rather a good mood himself, I can assume you worked things out between you?"

"We have."

"Oh James, I really am happy for you bothâ€|but I meant what I said beforeâ€|the man's clearly concerned about all of this and what people's reactions might beâ€|you'll need to be the strong one here."

"I'm not going to hurt him Eveâ€|you have my word."

"I'm going to hold you to that."

"Is he free?"

"He is, his next appointment isn't for an hourâ€|you have time."

"Thanks Eve."

â€|

James entered Mallory's office, not bothering to knock to see him standing by the window, looking down on the streets of London. James smiled to himself before walking up behind him, his arms came around his waist, causing the older man to flinch.

"Jamesâ€|I didn't hear you come in." He smiled, feeling the warm hands on his stomach.

"I'm trained to be quiet as a mouse Sir." He whispered against his neck.

"Jamesâ€|enough with the Sir please."

"Turn around."

Mallory did as he asked, watching the way the agent looked at him, the way he studied him.

"Iâ€|loveâ€|.you." James said as he pressed his lips to Mallory's.

"I meant what I said about the nursery you know."

"I'll paint any room you want me too, but not redâ€|there is far too much red at your place."

"It keeps me warm, after a day of dealing with cold blooded killersâ€|that's why I like it so much."

"Well, I can understand that, come and sit down."

Mallory followed James to the couch, taking a seat beside him, James moving closer to him.

"When I got your text last nightâ€¦I don't think I've ever felt as happy as I did in that moment, knowing you were willing to give in to all your fears about this baby for me."

"For usâ€¦a termination wasn't what I wanted when I found out, I justâ€¦I didn't think children was something you ever wanted."

"I didn't think it was either and thenâ€¦when you told me. When I saw you sitting in that waiting room that day, the fear in your faceâ€¦I knew then you didn't want to go through with it, that you were torn. I want you to knowâ€¦I know this is new for both of us butâ€¦no matter how difficult things get, I won't be going anywhereâ€¦I promise."

Mallory took James face in his hands before kissing him; James opened Mallory's jacket and waistcoat before moving them to the side to press his hand firmly to the spot where their baby lay.

"Does it feel weird?" James asked.

"What?"

"Having somethingâ€¦in there?"

"It doesn't really feel much different, butâ€¦I suppose it's still very small."

"I can't wait for you to start showing."

"Well, it shouldn't be much longer. People will start to notice changes in me soon enough; I suppose I ought to go public."

James heard the worry in his voice as Mallory looked down, his hand over James.

"We'll go publicâ€¦I'll be there with you; you don't have to do it alone."

"It's justâ€¦all so much at once."

"Who needs to know first of all?"

"The PM, then I suppose the people we work with, our friends. It will be a lot for them to take in, not just the babyâ€¦but us. Eve's the only one who even knows any of this."

Mallory began to ramble as he got to his feet, pacing back and forth as he spoke. James offered a smile before getting to his feet, hands coming to Mallory's sides, stopping him.

"Heyâ€¦everything's going to be okay. We'll get through this, I promise."

"They could fire me."

"No they can't, unfair dismissal and besidesâ€¦do you really think anyone here would let that happen to you."

"I don't think I'm as popular as you might think I am."

"You are, just as she was. Tough but fair and the people around youâ€|they respect you for that. They have your back, trust me."

Mallory nodded his head in agreement before removing himself from James grip and walking over to the phone, James watched him closely as he made the phone call he'd been dreading. Mallory steadied himself on his desk after finishing the call, James coming up behind himâ€|a warm hand on his back.

"You okay?"

"Mmmmmâ€|3pm today."

"The sooner you get it over with, the easier it will be."

"Do you really think so?" He asked turning around.

"Heyâ€|we're having a babyâ€|nothing else matters, just you and them." He smiled, his eyes wandering to Mallory's stomach.

â€|

James made sure he was available at 3pm and went to meet Mallory, to see him sitting outside the PM's office.

"I'm not late am I?"

"You're fine, he's running behind apparently."

James sat down beside him, the PM's secretary looking up at James and smiling. James smiled back before turning his attentions back to Mallory, seeing the worried look on his face. Reaching out, he took tight hold of his hand. The look the secretary gave him didn't go unnoticed by him, taking it a step further and placing a kiss to his lips as he turned Mallory's head.

"Jamesâ€|not here." He replied quietly.

"Will you relax?"

The phone rang as they turned to the young woman as she placed the receiver back down.

"The Prime Minister will see you now M."

"Thank you."

James got up to follow him in, a supportive hand on his back. The Prime Minister looked up to see both men enter.

"Mâ€|I wasn't expecting Bond with you."

"I'm sorry Prime Minister but, what I have to talk to you about involves both us I'm afraid."

"Oh godâ€|what's he gone and done this time, blew up another bloody embassy."

"Relax Sir, I haven't blown anything up." James responded.

"Sit down then."

They did as instructed and took a seat across from The Prime Minister, Mallory looking and feeling more nervous than he ever had before.

"Well come on, I have another engagement in half an hour so if you could hurry this along then Iâ€¦"

"Bond and I are in a relationship Prime Minister." He said quickly.

"I beg your pardon."

"James and Iâ€¦we'reâ€¦together."

"I seeâ€¦well, this is a surprise I don't mind telling you."

"They're nothing that says we can't Sir." James added.

The Prime Minister got to his feet, going to the window before turning back to them.

"Well you're right Bond there isn't, but I do hope you can keep work and home separate, otherwise things could get complicated."

Mallory closed his eyes briefly, worry filling him which didn't go unnoticed by either man.

"Mâ€¦.what, what aren't you telling me."

"Prime Minister Iâ€¦weâ€¦"

"It's okay, let me." James added.

"If someone could tell me I'd appreciate it."

"Sirâ€¦Garethâ€¦M has a condition that, until now hasn't been an issue."

"Condition, you passed your last physical."

"I did Sir."

"Sirâ€¦he's not ill. He has a condition, very rare that enables him to haveâ€¦a child."

"Oh god." Mallory muttered.

"I'm sorryâ€¦what, I don't understand."

"He's trying to tell you Prime Minister that I'm pregnant."

"Don't be ridiculous man; pregnantâ€¦I don't believe it."

James watched as Mallory took something out of his breast pocket before getting up and handing it to The Prime Minister, who took it

and studied it for a few minutes, his eyes going wide before handing it back to Mallory who put it back in place.

"You're not kiddingâ€|well this is, very strange I must say."

"Prime Minister, I won't allow this to affect my work in any way. I'm still very capable of doing my job."

"I wouldn't say things like that just yet Mâ€|if I recall my wife's pregnancies, the first few months were the worst."

"I refuse to step down Sir."

"You can't force him out of MI6." James added.

"Gentlemen, I have no intention in dismissing M. I'm not saying I'm not shocked and surprised because I am. I didn't even know things like this were possible but you have shown me the proof. I will treat you as I would treat any woman in the same position. Do you plan on making it public, or would you like to take early leave and explain the sudden presence of a child later?"

"I don't plan on keeping this a secret Prime Minister, James and I agreed that going public about this would be the best thing, I realize we will receive some bad press and I can only apologize in advance for what might be ahead."

"Not to worry Mâ€|we'll handle it like we handle everything here. Leave the press to me."

"As for the people we work with, I intend to send out a memo to all departments informing them of a meeting where James and I will let them know what's happening."

"Are you sure you're ready for that, the entire building knowing. Not everyone will accept this."

"I realize that Sir but I refuse to hide my condition."

"He shouldn't have to hide it, if anybody has issues, they can deal directly with me. I dare them to argue with me."

"Jamesâ€|."

"What, I won't let anyone make you feel disgusted by this."

"Gentlemen, Bond you're license to kill gets you so far, you will not use it on anyone with in MI6â€|is that clear."

"Yes Sir."

"You may go gentlemen, you know where to find me if you require any assistance. As for the press, leave that to me."

"Thank you Prime Minister."

"Have a good day gentlemen."

Mallory and James exited the office and headed down the hallway,

Mallory stopping as James walked on before realizing that Mallory was leaning against the nearest wall. Walking back to him, he placed a hand on his arm, the other on the side of his face, forcing him to look at him.

"Hey you okay?"

"Mmmm."

"Are you in pain?"

"No Iâ€¦I didn't expect him to be so understanding about all of this."

"What were you expectingâ€¦for him to fire you?"

"Actuallyâ€¦yes."

"Well then he's a better man for not, you can't help what's happening to you, it has and we're dealing with it. What I said to him, about anyone saying anything to you to hurt you or cause pain, **I will hurt them**."

"James you're not hurting anyone, he'll take away your license to kill."

"Yes well, I don't think I'll be needing it much longer anyway."

"What are you saying?"

"We're having a baby, a familyâ€¦you didn't seriously think I'd want to be away all the time did you?"

"I suppose it wasn't something that occurred to me."

"Well we'll talk about tonight, right nowâ€¦lets go to your office and get this meeting organized."

â€¦

To Be Continuedâ€¦

6. Chapter 6

Chapter 6

â€¦

James made some tea and took it through to the front room, Mallory was sitting on the sofa, his eyes closed briefly. James sat the cups down before taking a seat beside the older man, leaning back before looking at him.

"You okay?"

"Mmmm, long day."

"You have to admit, it went better than expected."

"True, all we have to do now is tell the staff."

"Well, we've sent out the memo and I'll be there with you tomorrow, you won't be alone." Taking his hand.

"Thank you." He smiled, looking back at him.

"What did you show the PM earlier today?"

"Mmmm."

"You passed him something in his officeâ€|what was it?"

"Ohâ€|here."

James watched as Mallory went in to his jacket that was now lying on the arm of the sofa and brought out the piece of paper that the Prime Minister had looked at, passing it to James. He took it from Mallory's grasp, smiling as he looked at it closely to see the smallest image of their child in front of him.

"When was this taken?"

"When I first found out, you were away on a short mission and I'd been feeling a little run down, Kate had insisted on giving me the once over. It was Kate who discovered I was pregnant."

"You never said she knew."

"She promised that she'd keep quiet, I explained everything to her."

"She knows about me?"

"Yes."

"She must really hate me then; I know how much she likes and respects you."

"Kate's a good friend."

"Who used to clean up dead bodies?" He muttered.

"You're one to talk, you kill them."

"TouchÃ©."

"In all honestly, I knew right away something wasn't right with me. I knew I could only trust her with such information."

"You could have trusted me."

"Jamesâ€|this was a sensitive subject and youâ€|we'd only spent one night together, I didn't know how you were going to take it. I haven't been in charge that long andâ€|oh I don't know, perhaps I was just scared."

"You're allowed to be, but I'm here now and it'll all be alright, I promise."

"James you can't promise something like that, neither of us know what will happen."

"You're going to be alright, I'm going to make sure of that nothing happens to you, to either of you."

James leaned over, his hand finding its way to Mallory's abdomen, pressing his hand closely.

"You never seem to get tired of doing that do you?" Mallory smiled.

"What."

"Touching my stomach."

"Sorry, I just find the whole thing incredibleâ€¦I sometimes can't believe it's actually happening."

James looked up to see the way Mallory was watching him, James leaned in and covered his lips, feeling the older man moan against his lips.

"I love you so much James."

"I love you too, we're going to be alright, I promise."

â€¦

Mallory had gone to the office early the next morning, not being able to sleep for thinking about the meeting with his colleagues. He made his way down to the basement, knowing Kate would already be there, the woman was always an early riser.

"Kateâ€¦"

The older woman, in her sixties turned from her filing cabinet to see Mallory standing in the doorway watching her.

"Hello dearie, what brings you down to my neck of the woods so early? You're alright aren't you, nothing's wrong?"

"I just couldn't sleep."

"Mmmm, take a seat."

Mallory was about to sit on the chair opposite her desk until he felt her hand on his arm.

"Not there dearie, up here."

"Kate I already told you, I'm perfectly fine."

"Well as I'm the one with medical background, why don't you let me judge for myself, satisfy an old woman's curiosity."

"I would never refer to you as old Kate."

"No, you know betterâ€¦up."

Gareth removed his suit jacket and took a seat on the bed as Kate strapped the blood pressure pump to his arm and squeezed the end. Mallory kept himself focused on Kate's face as she concentrated on the task at hand.

"Mmmmm."

"What is it?"

"Your blood pressure is a little high dearie, what are you stressing about?"

"It's nothing."

"Don't lieâ€¦not to me. Out with it Gareth."

"It's just, I'm just feeling a little nervous about the meeting laterâ€¦you got the memo didn't you."

"I did, I wasn't aware that your pregnancy was the reason for the meeting butâ€¦I think you're doing the right thing."

"You do?"

"It's not something you can hide forever, have you told Bond yet?"

"I have."

"And? Let me guess, a baby isn't really the right fit for him right now?"

"Kate don't, as a matter of factâ€¦James has been brilliant about it all. I informed the PM yesterday about the baby and James insisted being there with me. He refuses to let me go through any of it alone, I think he's rather looking forward to the baby."

"Well I have to say I'm surprised, that's not what I was expecting."

"You know, if you got to know himâ€¦I think you'd actually like him. I know he has a reputation for drink and sex but, that's not who he isâ€¦not really. It's all a front, a front to hide the real James Bond."

"Well, I'll believe that when I see it. I'm sorry, I know you want me to like him. Nowâ€¦would you like me to do an ultra sound, have a little peek at the baby?"

"Actually, would you mind if I waited, I'd like James to be present for that."

"Of course, you'll probably want your own doctor dealing with you anyway, I'm sorryâ€¦I was getting ahead of myself."

"No Kateâ€¦actually I'd like you to monitor me for the remainder of the pregnancy, if you'd like too."

"It would be my pleasure dearie."

â€|

James stepped in to Mallory's office just after lunchtime to find him pacing, as he talked to himself.

"Garethâ€|why are you talking to yourself?"

"Mmmmm, oh I'm rehearsing what I'm going to say at this damn meeting."

James walked over, his hand going to Mallory's arms, forcing him to face James.

"You need to relax; your blood pressure will be through the roof at this rate."

"Have you been talking to Kate?"

"Kateâ€|no, why would I be talking with her."

"Oh, I went down to see her this morning."

"What, why what's wrong, the baby okay?"

"James the baby's fine, I just wanted to talk to someone."

"You know you can talk to me."

"I know that, it's just Kateâ€|I've known her a long time and she's a good listener."

"Well I hope you weren't talking about me, she'll only have bad things to say aboutâ€|"

"James stopâ€|she doesn't hate you, she justâ€|she cares about me and she just worries thatâ€|"

"That what, I won't stick around?"

"Something like that, given your reputationâ€|you can't blame her."

"Just so long as you don't think the way she does."

"James I would neverâ€|."

"I'm with you every step of the way here, I'm not leaving youâ€|I love you."

"James I love you too and I know you're here for me. Get to know Kate, I think you two will end up quite good friends. Take her down to the shooting range one day, get to know her."

"The shooting range, really?"

"Don't joke, Kate can handle a gunâ€|trust me."

"Well now I'm intrigued."

"Just give her a chance; it's exactly the same thing I said to her."

"Fine, for you I'll try."

"Thank you." He smiled.

"So, are you ready?"

"I feel sick."

"I'm right here, hold my hand if you need too."

"Really hand holding, give them extra ammunition."

"Screw them all, if they can't get on board with all of this then they're not worth it. Come on, let's get this over with."

â€|

The entire room was packed as James and Mallory walked in, everyone talking amongst themselves. Eve stopped talking with Tanner when Mallory cleared his throat.

"Could I have everyone's attention please?" Mallory spoke up.

"QUIET."

"Yes, thank you Bond."

"Sorry." He whispered to him.

"Right, well as you already know I sent out a memo yesterday to request this meeting today. You're probably all wondering what it's in aid off."

"Is everything alright M?" Q asked.

"Well I suppose that might depend on how you all take what I have to say."

"M, is this about MI6?" Tanner asked.

"Not exactly, it concerns myself and Bond here."

"What's he done this time then?"

They looked up to see some cocky agent trying to get arise from James which thankfully he chose to ignore. James turned when he heard the door to see Kate walking in and over to Eve's side.

"Sorry I'm late M."

"That's quite alright Kate, thank you for being here."

Kate and James knew that the thank you meant a lot more than Mallory would even admit.

"As I was saying, the reason for this meeting is because I thought it was only fair to inform you all, as I'm sure the gossip has already begun.

"What that Bond is sleeping with the boss."

"Watch that mouth of yours Price." Kate warned as she turned to face the young man.

One look from Kate was always enough to silence even the hardest of men.

"So you have heard the rumours then, well yesâ€¦ James and I are in a relationship."

Mallory glanced to James who didn't seem affected by all the immediate whispers or snide remarks from juvenile agents. James could feel his eyes on him, turning to smile at him without a care in the world. He reached over and took tight hold of Mallory's hand, watching the small smile on Eve's face as he did so.

"We're not finished yet." James spoke up.

"It's more than just a case of James and I being together, I have a small condition."

"You're ill Sir?" Q asked, suddenly concerned for his boss.

"No I'm not ill, it's moreâ€¦."

Kate could see Mallory was struggling with words and James didn't know what to do, looking over at Kate for some help.

"Alright I need everyone's attention and I need you all to focus on me for a moment. Now M's condition, it's not seriousâ€¦ providing he takes things easy and gets help from the people who care about him. He has a small condition that was discovered during childhood, there's never been a real known name for his state but simply putâ€¦ he is able to have children."

Mallory could swear the whispering got louder by the second, his hand shaking as James moved closer to him.

"You mean he's pregnant?" One of the young women asked, looking at him.

"That's correct dearie, now I understand it's a lot to take in, especially in such a short space of time but it is happening and what both M and James need from you is your support and I know most of you very well and I think it's safe to say you'd respect them both."

Mallory looked up when Kate turned to face him, squeezing his hand in friendship before returning to the group.

"Well, yes as Kate said. Your support will be gratefully appreciate. I know it's not something you expected to hear butâ€¦"

"What M is trying to say is that we appreciate your understanding,

thank you." James smiled as he escorted Mallory from the room.

As soon as they left, everyone began whispering to one another and Eve turned to Kate.

"Well it went better than I thought it would."

"Hang on Eve, you knew?" Tanner asked.

"Wellâ€|yes, oh look what does it matter?"

"He's having a baby Eve, it's a bit out there."

"But it out there as you say Mr Tanner so if I were you, I'd get on board with it, for their sake. Eve, coffee later."

"Sure Kate, I'll come down."

"See you soon dearie."

"She likes youâ€|you do know that."

"Bill."

"I'm just saying, you do know she's a lesbian right."

"Yes I do and I don't care, I'm not that way myself but I do enjoy her companyâ€|and if it ever did come up, I would simply explain okay."

Bill watched Eve walk off as Q went to follow.

"Qâ€|are you okay with all this."

"Well it is a little out of the realm of possibility but it's happened so, I suppose we just have to make the best of it."

Bill shook his head as he watched his colleagues, his friends walk away, clearly unaffected by the big announcement.

â€|

To Be Continuedâ€|

7. Chapter 7

****Chapter 7****

â€|

James watched for any signs of distress as they entered Mallory's office, James came over as Mallory leaned against the desk before letting out a long sigh.

"Hey come on, it wasn't that bad."

"Noâ€|but I can only imagine what they said when we left the roomâ€|did you see Bill's face?"

"Yeah I did."

"Disgust James, complete disgust."

Mallory lowered his head, his hand running over his abdomen.

"What if this is a mistake."

"Whatâ€¦the baby?"

"You saw the look on everyone's faces James, this won't be easy."

"So whatâ€¦the easiest way out is to kill your child, you find that easier than dealing with a few months of whispers and snide remarks."

"James Iâ€¦"

James moved towards him, invading his space as he placed his hand over Mallory's, his other hand lifting the older man's face a little to look at him.

"You don't want to get rid of this baby, they way you've been the last few daysâ€¦how connected you are to her already. You want this baby as much as I do, you're scared and you're saying things without thinking."

"I'm sorry; I didn't mean what I saidâ€¦I was being selfish."

"You're scared and that's okay, I won't pretend it's all going to be plain sailing but I'm right here with youâ€¦at the end of the dayâ€¦we're having a baby." He smiled.

"We areâ€¦aren't we?"

James leaned down, covering Mallory's lip as his arms found their way around James waist.

"Sorry boys, I didn't mean to interrupt."

They broke apart as James turned to see Kate walking in.

"Kateâ€¦not at all, sorry you had to see that." Mallory smiled.

"Don't be ridiculous dearie, it's nice to see two people in love. I just wanted to make sure you were alright."

"We're fine Kate."

"It won't be like this forever you know, just give them all some time."

"That's what I said." James smiled.

"Mâ€¦sorry to interrupt but I need your signature on something." Eve smiled, standing in the doorway.

"I'll come out; back in a moment you two."

Kate and James watched Mallory leave before Kate turned back to see James watching her.

"What?" She asked.

"Nothing, I justâ€¦I wanted to thank you for taking care of him. He said you've been a big help since he found out about the baby."

"Well he's a good friend, there's nothing I wouldn't do for him."

"You don't think very much of me, do you?"

"All I know about you is by reputation."

"It's not who I am you know, the womenâ€¦the sexâ€¦its part of the job."

"And do you think you can continue to do that with Gareth the way he is? Would you feel guilty about being half way across the world, killing, and sleeping with any women just to get information while he's here carrying your child?"

"Wowâ€¦you get right to it, don't you?"

"I'm sorry dearie but that man is a very good friend, he's been there for me when I needed him and I'm returning the favour."

"Lookâ€¦he doesn't know yet but, ever since he told me about the baby, I have been thinking a lot about my work, about Gareth."

"Go on."

"I know its early days butâ€¦I do love him, both of them and my job, while I still want to be a part of MI6, my double o status isn't that important to me anymore."

"You'd seriously consider giving it up for him."

"Kate I'd do anything for him, okay us sleeping together was at the time just a one off and the baby wasn't expected but it's happened and honestly, seeing him like thisâ€¦how much he loves this child alreadyâ€¦I'm falling in love with him, more and more everyday. I won't hurt him, you have my word on that."

"I hope you don't."

"He thinks a lot of you; you're quite a mystery Kate to many of us."

"Am I? well I'm a very private person dearieâ€¦we all have our mysteries. I need to get back, look after him."

"I will."

"Oh Kate, you're leaving?" Mallory asked, coming back in.

"I have some tests to run and reports to finish, best not delay them any longer."

"Okay then, and thank you for earlierâ€¦I appreciate it."

"Gareth I will always be here for you, both of you. I'll see you later."

â€¦

Eve appeared in Kate's doorway just after seven that night, Kate's head down as she focused on the report in front of her.

"Kate?"

"Eve, sorry dearieâ€¦I was catching up on some thingsâ€¦come on in."

"I'm sorry about tea earlier, things came up."

"No need to explainâ€¦drink?"

"Please."

"Whiskey or Scotch?"

"Whiskey please."

Eve took a seat as Kate poured the drink and handed her a glass.

"Thanks, I'm not keeping you back am I?"

"Don't be silly, I was getting ready to call it a night anyway. Come sit on the sofa, we can chat."

Eve followed her over, sitting down beside her before take a sip of her drink and coughing.

"You don't drink much whiskey do you dearie?"

"Not very often I'm afraid; I'm more a red wine girl myself."

Kate offered a small smile before taking a drink herself, closing her eyes as she leaned back in to the sofa.

"Have you had a long day?" Eve asked.

"Mmmm, not too bad actuallyâ€¦I've just been trying to make sure Gareth is okay."

"Yeah that was a pretty intense meeting, although they handled it well. I'm glad he had James with him."

"What do you think off him?"

"What James? He'sâ€¦not had an easy life but, he pushes through."

"Will he be there for Gareth?"

"Of course he will, look I know you don't know James very well and you only ever hear about him from others, you hear the gossip about him but please believe me when I say he truly cares about M. He'll be there for him, he won't walk away."

"I had a conversation with him earlier; he told me he loved him."

"Well I can't say I'm surprised, he took the news about the baby very well and since then, he's barely left M's side. You can trust him you know."

"I'm not the kind of person to trust easily dearie."

"Who hurt you?"

"I'm sorry."

"Someone must have abused your trust very badly for you to find it this hard to trust someone like James."

"I'm sorry dearie but my past is my own, no one else's."

"Sorry Iâ€¦I just thought it might help to share, forget I said anything."

Kate offered her a small smile before placing a warm hand over hers.

"It was kind of you to think of me dearie."

â€¦

James was listening to some of Mallory's cd's in front of the fire when Mallory took a seat beside him, dressed down in some sweatpants and shirt.

"Wowâ€¦you lookâ€¦different." James grinned.

"I couldn't be bothered being neat tonight."

"Well you never have to for me; I like you just the way you are."

James stretched his arm out and around Mallory's shoulder, bringing him a little closer as James pressed a kiss to his ear.

"You did remarkably well today Garethâ€¦I'm proud of you."

"I've never been so scared in my life."

"But you got through it."

"With your help, and Kate's."

"Mmmm, you know she cares a hell of a lot about you."

"And the feeling is mutual."

"She made me promise never to hurt you."

"And what did you say?"

"What do you think I said, I gave her my word I'd never hurt youâ€|or her." James smiled, placing his free hand on Mallory's abdomen.

Mallory smiled down at James, James giving him a curious look.

"What did I say now?"

"It's nothing, it's justâ€|that's the second time you've referred to the baby as "she" today."

"You don't want a girl?"

"Honestly I don't mind what we have, just so long as they're healthy."

"Yeahâ€|me too."

"Kate offered to do an ultra sound this morning."

"You mean you know what we're having."

"No, I declined."

"Whatâ€|why."

"Because I don't want the first time I see our baby is on my ownâ€|that's something we should experience together."

"Okay so we'll contact your doctor and arrange one."

"Actually that's something I want to talk to you about."

"Ohâ€|"

"If it was alright with you, I'd like Kate to monitor me for the remainder of the pregnancy."

"Ohâ€|right."

"She's the only one I really trust James and she'll be honest and up front about everything, she would never hide anything from us."

"It really means that much to you?"

"It does."

"Then okay, whatever you want to do then it's fine with me. Kate's our doctor."

"Thank you James."

"Anything for you." He smiled, kissing him.

â€|

To Be Continuedâ€|

End
file.